



Council Offices,
Chapel-en-le-Frith,
April 22nd, 1926.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the
CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1925.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Total Area of District is 80,389 acres.

Population (Census, 1921), 16,144.

Estimated—1925—16,140.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

This area of the High Peak District varies in elevation from 560 to 1950 feet above sea level.

GEOLOGICAL STRATUM.

This consists of mountain limestone, millstone grit, and coal measures.

Number of inhabited houses, 3,880.

Number of families or separate occupiers, 1921, 3,880.

Rateable value of the District amounts to £179,081.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £643.

The chief occupations are:—

Agriculture, limestone quarrying, cotton spinning, calico printing, bleaching and dyeing.

With the exception of limestone quarrying these occupations have no prejudicial influence on health. The high temperature of the kilns, the dust from the burnt lime, and the gasses emitted in the burning, tend to promote bronchitis or bronchial trouble.

Muscular rheumatism, lumbago and sciatica is somewhat prevalent amongst those who actually quarry the stone, due doubtless to the exposure to the wet and cold.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female.	
Births { Legitimate	232	135	97	} Birth rate (R.G.) 14·75.
{ Illegitimate	6	4	2	

England and Wales, 18·3.

	Total	Male	Female.	
Deaths from all causes	184	102	82	Death rate (R.G.) 11·4.

England and Wales, 12·2.

No women died in or in consequence of childbirth from Sepsis.

Number of Infants who died under one year of age, per thousand is 79·8; England and Wales, 75.

This is represented by a total of 19 Deaths; 12 males, 7 female, Legitimate 19, Illegitimate, 0.

There was one death from Measles. Diphtheria accounted for one death. Whooping Cough three deaths. None from Diarrhoea under two years. One death from Scarlet Fever.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1925.

Disease.				Cases notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	...	...	...	2	2	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	64	61	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal	...	...	...	1	1	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	5	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	...	...
Pneumococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	1	1	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	1	...	...
Chicken Pox.	...	...	...	85	...	...
Tuberculosis :—						
(a) Pulmonary			M	...	...	4
			F	...	...	3
			Total	...	...	7
(b) Non-Pulmonary			M	...	...	2
			F	...	...	...
			Total	...	...	2

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total blindness	Deaths.
	Notified	Treated					
		At Home	In Hospital				
1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...

ANALYSIS OF CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

Disease.			Under 1 Year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & Up-wards
Diphtheria	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	1	...	1	3	25	16	13	5	...	...	...
Pneumonia	1	1	...	...	...	2	1
Malaria
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis
Erysipelas	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...
5	1	1	1	..	...	...	...	...
10	2	2	...	2	...	1	...	...
15	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
20	1	3	...	2	1	...	...	...
25	4	1	...	1	1	...	...	...
35	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
45	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 & upwards.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	14	7	2	6	4	3	1	

OUT-RELIEF amounted to £822 15s. 6d.

Epidemics of Scarlet Fever, Chicken Pox and Measles have prevailed throughout the past year. In recent years Scarlet Fever has assumed a mild type, and it is probable that the mildness of the illness enables cases to slip undetected and so leads to dissemination.

No cases of Small Pox have occurred, but contacts have been notified and these have been duly vaccinated.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR COUNTY COUNCIL.

1. Tuberculosis. - - - - Administered by the County Council.
2. Maternity. - - - - None.
3. Children. - - - - "
4. Fever. - - - - High Peak Hospital. This comes under a Joint Scheme and serves Chapel-en-le-Frith, Glossop Dale, Hayfield Rural, and New Mills Urban Districts
5. Small Pox. - - - - This is treated when it arises in an Isolated part of the Hospital.
6. Other - - - - None.

The following Hospitals outside the district are available :—

Manchester Royal Infirmary.

Salford " "

Sheffield " "

Stockport " "

Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield.

Buxton Cottage Hospital.

Devonshire Hospital, Buxton, for Rheumatism and Allied Diseases.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children, other than The Elms, Chapel-en-le-Frith (Union Workhouse).

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Cases of Infectious Disease are removed by the Motor Ambulance to the High Peak Hospital, Chinley, whilst the Red Cross Ambulance, together with an ambulance maintained by the Buxton Lime Firms Company, Limited, serves for non-infective and accident cases.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.	1 Chapel-en-le-Frith, 1 Whaley Bridge, 1 Chinley.
Day Nurseries. - - - - -	None.
School Clinics. - - - - -	1 Chinley.
Tuberculosis Dispensaries. - - -	1 Chinley, Consultation and treatment, provided by the County Council.
Treatment Centres for Venereal Diseases.	Nil.

The Institution at Chinley is utilised by the County Council for school work and Tuberculosis.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Comprise :—

- One Medical Officer of Health. (Part Time).
- One Sanitary Inspector, (duly qualified Meat Inspector).
- One Second Sanitary Inspector.
- Two Health Visitors (Women).

No provision is made for home nursing of Infectious Diseases. In most instances cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital, Chinley.

District Nurses are maintained by the District Nursing Association and are stationed at Chapel-en-le-Frith, Edale, Bamford, Hartington Upper Quarter, Fernilee and Wormhill. These nurses visit the homes and render excellent service. In many instances they do much of the Mid-wifery work.

There are eight midwives in the Area. One of the Health Visitors is also the Inspector of Midwives.

LABORATORY WORK.

All pathological and bacteriological investigations are conducted at Derby in the County Laboratory and the number of specimens sent during the year is as follows :—

Disease.	Positive	Negative	Total
Enteric. ... ..	...	...	...
Diphtheria	1	...	1
Phthisis	3	...	3
Miscellaneous			
Milk Samples ..	.	9	9

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is supplied gratuitously in necessitous cases.

WATER SUPPLY.

The sources of supply are Upland Surface water and Springs. Generally speaking the larger communities are provided with a constant supply of excellent water from the reservoirs, not readily polluted. There are, however, parts of the District where water supply has caused much anxiety for many years.

Peak Forest is supplied by wells, in many instances shallow wells, liable to pollution. There are, however, many attendant difficulties in the provision of more water. The geological strata largely does not permit of retention of water. The District is isolated and the cost of bringing a supply into the district has hitherto been considered prohibitive.

Green Fairfield.—The existing supply is from a Spring, but the Local Authority for the past three years has considered supplying from other sources. These sources, other springs rising at a low level, have caused considerable difficulty, owing to lack of pressure.

Thornhill.—A small parish with isolated houses, is supplied by a few springs and several wells. Though much time has been spent in finding a satisfactory supply, financial difficulties prevent the parish from embarking on a scheme.

It is a matter of regret that the various parishes: Brough, Shatton, Thornhill, Aston, Bamford, and Hope, in the Hope Valley, were unable to amalgamate in a thoroughly sound scheme and take advantage of the abundant and wholesome supply from Jaggars' Cough.

Harpur Hill. - Repeated examination of the drinking water proved it to be unwholesome. A scheme has been formulated and has to be submitted to the Ministry for the supply of this village. It is hoped that the present year will see an abundant and wholesome supply for this industrial community.

Dove Holes —The erection of Council Houses in this area has involved a greater consumption of the available supply, and the question of increased storage is under consideration. The provision for further supplies is a pressing need.

During the five years ending 1925, water main extensions have been carried out mostly to deal with new property at the following places :—

Chinley, Prince's Road.
Cumbs.
Chapel-en-le-Frith, Rowtan Grange Road.
Connection over Silk Hill.
Bamford, Joan Lane.
Batham Gate.
Nook Scheme.

For Fernilee parish a subsidiary reservoir at the "Nook" has been completed, and a good supply of water has been obtained to augment the existing scheme from Lee Head Reservoir.

During the past year a connection has been made between the Fernilee water main on the top of Silk Hill to the Chapel main at Gnat Hole. By this means the whole of Bugsworth and a portion of Chinley can be supplied when necessary with a plentiful supply from Fernilee.

In Bamford parish the water main has been extended in Joan Lane.

RIVER POLLUTION.

BLACKBROOK. - This flowing through Chapel-en-le-Frith, Chinley and Bugsworth and on whose banks are erected Bleaching and Dye works, is liable to pollution by the effluents.

RIVER GOYT is similarly apt to be polluted.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

Sewerage Schemes exist in the following areas :—

Bamford.
Castleton.
Chinley & Bugsworth.
Fernilee.

The works at Bamford have only been completed during the year 1925 and conversion to the water carriage system has progressed most favourably.

The scheme of treatment is by precipitation, filtration, and the effluent is discharged to the Derwent.

The new scheme at Chapel-en-le-Frith and Chinley is exactly similar. The effluent is discharged to the Blackbrook.

The following places are still without a proper drainage.

Hope.
Dove Holes.
Peak Dale.
Harpur Hill.

In those parts of the District where there are no sewers, sewage is simply conveyed into surface water drains whence it finds its way to the streams, or to fissures in the limestone rock.

During the quinquennium the only sewer extensions have been in Chapel-en-le-Frith and Fernilee.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The total number of houses in the District is estimated at 3967.

The total number of houses with water-closets is shown in the summarised table following, which gives the various parishes.

Constant endeavour is made to replace old insanitary types by the water-carriage system.

During the five years 1921/5 the changes are represented below.

Year.	Privies Abolished.	Pails Abolished.	Waterclosets Fixed.	Additional W.C.'s. Fixed.
1921	105	...	105	11
1922	94	...	94	4
1923	101	...	100	6
1924	112	4	116	15
1925	123	30	154	7
	535	34	569	43

Summary of Closet accommodation at the houses in the Districts where sewers are available is as follows :—

District.	No. of Houses.	Water Closets.	Privies.	Pail Closets.
Bamford	237	164	44	...
Castleton	147	115	29	1
Chapel-en-le-Frith	799	749	23	...
Chinley	426	394	31	1
Fernilee.	329	300	29	...

SCAVENGING.

In the following parishes Public Scavenging is carried out by the Council :

Bamford.

Chapel-en-le-Frith (including Dove Holes).

Chinley & Bugsworth.

The scheme was inaugurated in 1920 in Chapel-en-le-Frith when 35 dustbins were emptied.

Chinley was then dealt with. Subsequently Dove Holes was included.

At the present time about 550 dustbins are emptied in Chapel-en-le-Frith, 400 in Chinley, and in addition pail closets, privies and ashpits in Dove Holes.

Up to the present time the work has been carried out by separate contractors. Now the Council are employing direct labour and utilising a modern scavenging motor vehicle to undertake the work.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA.

In the year 1924, to cope with the ever-increasing and arduous duties of Sanitary Inspector, a Second Inspector was appointed. These two officials are to be commended for their conscientious work, details of which are appended in the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

A few complaints have been received of nuisance from smoke. This has several times been discussed, but it was felt that interference was not justified. A certain amount is inevitable in the industries of this neighbourhood : namely, Lime Burning.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

One house in the District was registered as a common Lodging house.

There are no offensive trades.

There are no underground sleeping rooms.

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary condition of the schools is on the whole good, but there is need for the conversion of the privies to waterclosets at Gnat Hole and Harpur Hill.

These matters have been brought before the managers and the County Council and it is to be hoped that the present year will see the work completed.

All the schools are disinfected twice a year, and also after an outbreak of an infectious disease.

HOUSING. General Housing Conditions.

It is regretted that in the populous and industrial parts of the district overcrowding is prevalent. To abate this the Council since 1919 have erected 162 houses in various parts of the District.

It is recognised that many more houses are required for the community, and although under the Housing Act, 1924, 25 houses have been erected and subsidised, it is desirable that many more houses should be built for the better housing of the people, and the abolition of many families being huddled under one roof. Private enterprise having failed to remedy the evil, the Council are to be commended on their decision to again undertake the housing of the working classes.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The general standard of the houses in the district is moderately good.

The older houses in many instances are built in the earth, and are deficient in light.

The minor defects most frequently are due to lack of supervision or faulty management.

In the majority of cases an informal notice suffices to effect improvement. Failing this a statutory notice usually has the desired effect. Legal proceedings have rarely been necessary.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

In a few instances where an unhealthy area exists it has been impossible to effect the necessary changes owing to the lack of alternative accommodation.

There have been no demolitions in the past year.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (Including numbers given separately under (b))	36
(b) With State assistance under Housing Acts :	
(I) By the Local Authority,	21
(II) By other bodies or persons	

UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses which were inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts 355

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. 31

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 1

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. ... 5

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 5

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 Nil

PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. ... 355

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) by owners.	36
(b) „ Local Authority, in default of owners	Nil

PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11, 14 AND 15 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1925. Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

A great deal of milk is produced in this district much of which is sent to the larger towns. On the whole the milk reaches a good standard, though many of the cowsheds require structural alterations and improvements. Samples of milk are sent periodically to the County laboratory for analysis, and the milk sent to the larger towns is examined by the Authority to whose area it is delivered.

No licences have been granted for the sale of milk under the Special Designations Order 1923, and no milk is pasteurised in the district.

There has been no refusal or revocation of registration of retailers, though in one instance legal proceedings were taken to insure cleanliness and effect registration. A fine was inflicted by the Magistrates.

MEAT.

Inspection of meat and other food supplies is carried out periodically, and examination of carcasses at the time of slaughter is carried out.

No marking under the Public Health Meat Regulations 1924 is in force.

There is no arrangement for the disposal of condemned meat, and the practice is to render such meat unsaleable for human food, after which it is disposed of to a Knacker in an adjoining district.

There are no public Slaughter-houses in the district.

		In 1920.	In Jan. 1925.	In Dec. 1925.
Registered	...	9	6	6
Licensed	...	4	6	6
		13	12	12

OTHER FOODS.

All the premises used for the preparation of human food are in a satisfactory state.

There have been no cases of food poisoning in the area. The Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts are administered by the County Council.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No cases of malaria, dysentery, or trench fever have been notified.

One case of encephalitis lethargica has occurred.

The majority of cases of infectious disease are removed to the Isolation Hospital.

There was no vaccination or re-vaccination under the Public Health Act, 1917. (Small pox prevention).

There are no facilities for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons.

Disinfection of premises or articles which have been exposed to infection are carried out systematically.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and mortality during 1925.

Age periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
10	2	2	...	2	...	1	...	...
15	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
20	1	3	...	2	1	...	...	...
25	4	1	...	1	1	...	...	...
35	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
45	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 & upwards.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	14	7	2	6	4	3	1	

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

GEORGE COCHRANE, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

The Clerk,
Rural District Council,
Union Offices,
Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Chapel-en-le-Frith Rural District Council.

Surveyors & Sanitary Inspector's Report.

for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

Council Offices.
Chapel-en-le-Frith.
April 1926.

NEW STREETS & BUILDINGS.

Total number of plans approved	...	...	100
Plans approved for new houses	...	...	31
" " " other buildings	...	...	69
New houses completed. Subsidy houses 21 } Non- " " 14 }	...	...	35
Other buildings completed	...	...	61
Plans abandoned	...	...	5
Drains laid to above	...	yards	2006
Gullies " " "	...	...	108
Vent Shafts	...	...	46
Inspection Chambers	...	...	48
Water Closets	...	...	52
Privies	...	...	1
Ashbins	...	...	38
Settling tanks or cesspools	...	...	10
Intercepting traps	...	...	11
Connections to sewer	...	...	33

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING ACTS, PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, ETC.

Houses inspected. Housing Acts	...	...	31
Closing Orders Made	...	...	1
Informal notices served by Inspector	...	...	216
Statutory " " "	...	...	36
Notices complied with	...	...	193
Legal proceedings taken	...	...	2
Houses provided with rain-water gutters	...	...	10
" " " improved light	...	...	15
" " " " ventilation	...	...	2
" " " dry area round walls	...	...	5
" " " ventilation in pantries	...	...	1
" floors repaired or new floors	...	...	4
" yards or courts paved	...	...	1
" roofs repaired	...	...	17
" ceilings "	...	...	1
" rain-water gutters repaired	...	...	3
" walls pointed or plastered	...	...	10
" drains or sinkwaste pipes disconnected	...	...	4
" redrained	...	...	100
New drains laid	...	yards	1298
Gullies fixed	...	...	39
Houses connected to Whaley Bridge Joint Sewerage Scheme			
Chapel-en-le-Frith	12 }		
Chinley, Bugsworth & Brownside	21 }		
Fernilee	10 }	...	43
New vent shafts erected	...	...	42
Inspection chambers built	...	...	50
New settling tanks "	...	...	2
" cesspools "	...	...	2
Cesspools abolished	...	...	3
" repaired or cleansed	...	...	10

Soilpipes repaired or drains repaired	...	...	10
Gullies removed from inside houses	...	...	1
Sinkwaste pipes fixed or repaired	...	...	21
Blocked drains cleansed	...	...	22
Urinals abolished	...	...	1
„ built (new)	...	...	1
Privies abolished	...	...	123
Pail or slop closets abolished	...	...	30
New water closets fixed	...	...	154
Additional water closets fixed	...	...	7
Privies converted to pails	...	...	1
New pail closets	...	...	1
Privies or ashpits repaired	...	...	15
„ „ „ cleansed	...	...	18
New dustbins fixed	...	...	38
Accumulations of manure or filth removed	...	...	10
Water samples submitted for analysis	...	...	2
Public water laid to existing houses	...	...	2
Dirty houses cleansed	...	...	2
Other nuisances or repairs	...	...	20
Houses disinfected. Scarlet Fever 52	}	...	69
Diphtheria 2			
Tuberculosis 12			
Other Diseases 3			
Public Schools disinfected	...	...	48
Slaughter Houses inspected	...	...	221
„ „ notices served	...	...	2
„ „ „ complied with	...	...	2
Bakehouses inspected	...	...	11
Cowsheds „	...	...	172
„ cleansed	...	...	40
Milk samples biologically tested	...	...	9
Food unfit for human consumption. 3 carcasses, one hind quarter, 45 lbs. of beef.			

T. DINSDALE,
Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor.

